

REMARKS

The disclosure is amended to correct some informalities.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 3,136,203 to Davis in view of applicant's prior art as seen in Figs. 1 and 2 (APA).

Responsive to this, applicant cancels claim 2 and amends claim 1 which is a combination of the claims 1 and 2 as originally filed. In the amended claim 1, Neither Davis nor the Figs. 1 and 2 of APA discloses the annular ring (36) with a ring surface (361) of the claimed nut. The existence of the annular ring as shown in Fig. 4 of the claimed application ensures that the top side of the annular ring performs a folding line when the duct of the nut is pulled upward by the bund nut gun so that the peripheral wall of first area of the duct of the claimed nut can be deformed and folded into the bending section (312) as shown in Fig. 5 of the claimed application. It is also noted that the top side of the annular ring is located corresponding to the annular groove as claimed in claim 4. By the specific arrangement, the bund nuts of the present invention perform satisfactorily and the bending section is reliably formed in each pull.

On the contrary, there is no such an annular ring defined in the conjuncture of the first area and the second area as disclosed in the claimed nut, the examiner provided a drawing in which the annular ring is pointed at the inclined surface of the

top most thread on the inside of the wall (25). Actually, that portion is simply a surface of the top most thread as another inclined area defined in the lower most thread in the inside of the wall (25). Besides, for the annular groove as disclosed in claim 4, the nut of Davis includes two so called annular grooves which are respectively located on two ends of the intermediate portion (24). The annular groove in the claimed nut ensures that when an upward force is applied to the annular groove, the peripheral wall of the first part is folded. If there are two annular grooves located on two ends of the intermediate portion as in the nut of Davis, which groove will be folded first is an unknown question before pulling the bund nut gun. Furthermore, the nut of Davis includes an intermediate portion (24) with inner and outer peripheries which expand outwardly, which is "the first area" designated by the examiner, and the intermediate portion leads to a complicated manufacturing problem.

In the claimed nut, the latch section is defined in the outer periphery of the duct and located corresponding to the first area. The latch section is designed to be collapsed and becomes a part of the bending section. In the nut of Davis, the examiner points out that Davis does not disclose the ribs on the outer surface, however, the APA discloses ribs on an outer surface of a first part. It is not an obvious suggestion for one of ordinary skill in the art to think of the combination of the ribs disclosed in APA with the outward expandable intermediate portion of the nut disclosed by Davis.

Regarding to claim 5, Gill discloses several stepped surfaces defined in the inner periphery of the duct. On the contrary, the duct of the claimed bund nut includes inclined inner and outer peripheries. The inner periphery of the nut disclosed by Gill basically includes straight surfaces which are totally different from the inclined periphery surface as claimed. Gill and the APA do not disclose the annular ring and the annular groove either.

Applicant further adds claims 6 to 8 wherein the new claim 6 is an independent claim and includes the inner and outer inclined surface of the duct, which are not disclosed in either of the cited references and the APA.

It is believed that, the amended claims 1 and the new claim 6 each have disclosed a structure whose construction and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over the cited prior arts. Therefore, it is believed that, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) should be removed, and the amended claim 1 and the new claim 6 should be allowable.

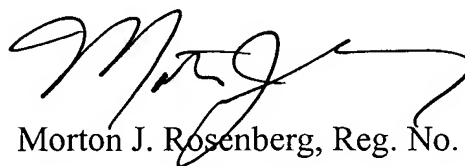
It is further submitted the amended claims 3, 4 and the claim 5 should be allowable as they are dependent upon the amended claim 1 which is believed to be allowable. The new claims 7 and 8 are also allowable as they are dependent upon the new claim 6 which is believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

The above amendment has been prepared by Applicant and is being filed by the undersigned attorney after formal review.

Respectfully submitted,

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